

*Local Political Campaign remarks at
Jersey City, New Jersey*

Harry S. Truman, 1952

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them against the things the New Deal and the Fair Deal have done for the people. They would like to forget it in election years, but they can't run away from their voting record in the Congress. That record shows how they have been against low-cost public housing—against effective rent controls and price controls designed to hold down the cost of living. They have a long record of trying to obstruct and cripple the social security program. They say they are in favor of it now, but their record is against them. Just this year, they have opposed our efforts to make it possible to grant a haven and a refuge here to more of our friends who have escaped from the Soviet communism in Poland and Czechoslovakia and other unfortunate nations behind the Iron Curtain. In short, they have consistently been against New Deal and Fair Deal measures designed to help the little fellow, as opposed to the rich and the powerful.

But most of all, in this election year, the Republicans are against the Democrats. The Republican high command has become so blind and so desperate that it has gone all out in spreading the outrageous falsehood that your President and your Government in Washington are soft toward communism. They have used every propaganda technique and huge sums of money to try to put this big lie over on the American people.

In the face of everything my administration has done to build up our defenses against communism here and abroad, the Republican charge would be funny if the matter were not so serious. Trying to make our hatred of communism a weapon of partisan politics is a good way to tear the country apart.

While the Republican candidate for President and his new friends have been busy trying to sow false seeds of suspicion, your Government has been steadily going forward with concrete measures to fight communism at home and abroad. Many of these measures I cannot even mention for security rea-

sons. Others are a matter of public record, but you probably haven't read about them in the opposition press. I am glad to add that your own Jersey Journal and Observer is one paper that is not afraid to print the truth.

A simple listing of some of the measures that have been taken—some of those which can be mentioned publicly—may shed some light on just how soft the Democrats are toward communism.

We now have the finest intelligence services in our history, both at home and abroad. We created the Central Intelligence Agency and vastly strengthened the FBI.

We have established a highly effective industrial security program.

We have established a thoroughgoing and effective port security program.

We have established Government-wide standards to protect secret information.

We have created the Psychological Strategy Board.

We have established the Federal employee loyalty and security programs, which put Government servants through more careful examination than any other group in the Nation.

All these things and more have been done under my administration. In recent months, as you know, acting under a law passed by a Democratic Congress under President Roosevelt—and based upon 10 years of painstaking investigation by the FBI—we have been indicting and convicting the Communist conspirators and putting them where they belong—in jail.

Now, my friends, I ask you a plain, simple, straightforward question: Does that sound soft on communism?

In the international field, we have built defenses against Communist aggression all around the world. Let me just remind you of how we stopped Communist aggression in Greece and Turkey. Let me remind you of how we have blocked Communist expansion through the Marshall plan, the point 4 program, the North Atlantic Treaty, and the mutual security program. And re-